

Message Text

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10

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

/055 W

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R 240415Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2297

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 2573

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IR, PK, AF

SUBJ: IRANIAN NEWSMAN INTERVIEWS PRESIDENT DAOUD

1. KABUL RADIO APRIL 22 AND VERNACULAR PRESS APRIL 23
CARRIED TEXT OF APRIL 16 INTERVIEW OF PRESIDENT DAOUD BY IRANIAN
RADIO/TELEVISION CORRESPONDENT (NAME NOT GIVEN). FIRST PUBLIC
ANNOUNCEMENT THAT DAOUD WOULD VISIT IRAN (WITHIN WEEK BEGINNING
APRIL 26) PRECEDED PUBLICATION OF INTERVIEW BY ONE DAY.

2. INTERVIEW WAS SHORT AND ONLY SKETCHILY COVERED STANDARD
EXPLICATIONS OF GOA FOREIGN AND INTERNAL POLICIES AND GOALS.
HOWEVER WHILE DAOUD MADE EXPECTED STATEMENTS ABOUT STRENGTH AND
FRIENDLINESS OF AFGHAN/IRANIAN RELATIONS, OVERALL TONE OF INTER-

VIEW APPEARS TO US AS TESTY. AT ONE POINT DAOUD GRATUITOUSLY
SINGLED OUT FARSI PHRASE EMPLOYED BY INTERVIEWER AS NOT USED
IN OUR DARI LANGUAGE." IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION CONCERNING
TEHRAN'S ROLE AS MEDIATOR IN PAK/AFGHAN DISPUTE, DAOUD SAID THAT
UNFORTUNATELY THE SHAHANSHAH'S ATTEMPTS TO MEDIATE DURING LAST
15-16 YEARS HAVE BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL. HE WENT ON TO STATE THAT GOA
APPRECIATES IRANIAN GOOD OFFICES AND WOULD WELCOME SOLUTION TO
PAK/AFGHAN DIFFERENCES.

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3. COMMENT. IRANIAN HANDS HERE RECALL THAT THE SHAH'S SUCCESSFUL MEDIATION IN MAY 1963 WAS WIDELY ACCLAIMED AS A PERSONAL TRIUMPH. IN THAT DAOUD'S RESIGNATION FROM PREMIERSHIP IN MARCH 1963 WAS NECESSARY STEP BEFORE MEDIATION OF DISPUTE COULD SUCCEED, IT IS NOT SURPRISING THAT DAOUD UNWILLING TO TERM THAT EFFORT SUCCESSFUL. HOWEVER, COMMENT ABOUT SHAH'S EFFORTS AND GENERAL TONE OF INTERVIEW SEEM CURIOUS WAY TO HERALD HIS VISIT TO IRAN.

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